



DRAFT MINUTES

NYS Coordinating Council for Services Related to Alzheimer's Disease
and Other Dementia
Monday, April 28, 2025
11:00 AM – 1:00 PM

Council Members and Representatives:

Members Present In Person: Michael Jabonaski (DOH), John Cochran (NYSOFA), Catherine James, Dr. Denise Cavanaugh, Julie Kelleher (NYSOCFS), George Shaw (OPWDD), Suzanne Sullivan (NYSED), Dr. Carol Podgorski, Teresa Galbier, Maxine Smalling (NYSOMH), Elizabeth Smith-Boivin, Dr. David Hart, David Okrent, Esq

Members Present Virtually: James Taylor, Dr. Donna de Levante Raphael, Dr. Louise Belzie, Jed Levine

Members Absent: William Higgins

NYSDOH Staff Present: Katie Mahar, Tracy Sinnott, Kimberly LaBarge, Felicia Segelken, Cassandra Tsyn, Susanne Coburn, Rose Gardner, Michael Chittenden, Jessica Dell'Anno (DLA)

Others Present: Lisl Maloney (NYSOCFS), Charles Williams (NYSOFA)

Note: The meeting was conducted in-person and via Webex. The meeting was recorded.

Welcome, Announcements, and Roll Call:

Ms. Sinnott called the meeting to order at 11:03 AM and conducted roll call. Ms. Sinnott announced a quorum was achieved. The co-chairs, Mr. Jabonaski and Mr. Cochran welcomed the Council members and thanked them for their work on the Council. Mr. Jabonaski discussed the importance of reaching a quorum and reminded state agency Council members to assign an alternate designee in the event they were unable to attend a scheduled meeting. This will help to ensure a quorum is reached moving forward.

Mr. Taylor recommended creating a subcommittee within the Council to reach leadership and the legislature with Council goals. Mr. Jabonaski added that feedback from the Council has had impact when speaking to leadership and the legislature.

Ms. Smith-Boivin asked about the status of the New York State budget. Mr. Chittenden reported that budget review remains in process and there has been communication with the executive leadership, the legislature, and chamber to answer any questions and include the effectiveness and importance of the Alzheimer's programs.

Ms. Sinnott introduced new Council member Dr. Donna de Levante Raphael. Dr. de Levante Raphael introduced herself to Council and provided information about her background and experience in the field of Alzheimer's disease and related dementia.

Ms. Sinnott provided an update of the open seats remaining on the Council.

Approval of Minutes:

A quorum was present for the approval of the following minutes:

November 16, 2023: Ms. Smith-Boivin motioned to approve; Ms. James seconded the motion.

March 4, 2024: Ms. Galbier motioned to approve; Mrs. Cavanaugh seconded the motion.

June 10, 2024: Ms. James motioned to approve; Ms. Kelleher seconded the motion

September 23, 2024: Ms. Smith-Boivin motioned to approve; Ms. Smalling seconded the motion.

December 9, 2024: Ms. Cavanaugh motioned to approve; Mr. Shaw seconded the motion.

March 17, 2025: Ms. Sullivan motioned to approve; Mr. Okrent seconded the motion

Ms. Sinnott asked if all were in favor of the approval of all meeting minutes. All members agreed to approve the minutes.

2025 Council Report Review/Approval:

Ms. Sinnott reviewed the updates to the 2025 Council Report with the Council members. Further discussion about final additions were deliberated and finalized. Ms. Sinnott also reviewed the Executive Summary with the Council members. Discussion occurred between Council members about focuses of the executive summary for future reports. After reviewing the final edits on both the 2025 Council Report and Executive Summary, Ms. Smith-Boivin made a motion to approve to the 2025 Council Report and Executive Summary. Ms. Sullivan seconded the motion. Ms. Sinnott asked if all were in favor of approval and all Council members confirmed the approval.

BOLD Update:

Ms. LaBarge provided an update on the Building Our Largest Dementia Infrastructure (BOLD) Cooperative Agreement. Ms. LaBarge shared information about the public awareness campaign and the brain health toolkit that was created for distribution. Ms. LaBarge also shared regarding the Continuation Application for the next funding year, and information about the new Brain Health brochure.

Master Plan on Aging Update:

Mr. Cochran shared that the Master Plan for Aging is in the final process and is planned to be released in the upcoming weeks.

Member Announcements, Public Comments:

Ms. Boivin-Smith shared concerns about extensive neurology wait times for diagnostic assessments. Ms. Galbier shared information about Isaac Health, a medical service that provides telehealth services and neurology support. Ms. Mahar explained that neurology shortages remain a nationwide barrier and the Centers of Excellence for Alzheimer's Disease in New York continue to expand their programs and community partnerships. Ms. Smalling shared these identified barriers should help guide discussion for the Council.

Mr. Taylor shared information about the Sunflower Program, available at airports, which enables people with hidden disabilities, including dementia, to receive special assistance while navigating the airport and while flying. Mr. Taylor informed the Council that United Airlines will be the first airline to recognize the program, beginning May 1, 2025.

There were no public announcements and the meeting was adjourned.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 12:59 pm.